(c) The information on comparative position in countries like Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore and Korea etc. in this regard is not available.

ADB aided Rural Projects

2351. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whethe Government have entered into a bid for ADB aided rural projects for which tenders were flouted by DOT;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether selection has been made for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details of the terms and conditions of the contracts; and

(e) by when the projects are likely to be set up, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir.

The Telder is nuder evluation

Import of engines for Pilotless Target Aircraft

2352. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that HAL spent Rs. 9.22 crores on the development of an engine for pilotless target aircraft which was unsuccessful, as a result of which 14 engines were imported at a cost of Rs. 6.75 crores; and

(b) if so, who is accountable for this loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) The Pilotless Target Aircraft Engine (PTAE-7 engine), designed and developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has been successfully flown on 18 May 1995. This is the first ever Aero-Gas Turbine Engine developed in the country. The project cost went up to Rs. 9.82 crores in 1989, due to technical problems. In the meanwhile, to ensure uninterrupted flight testing programme of PTA, import of 14 engines was authorised. However, future requirements for the PTA programme will be with the HAL developed engine, after certification. The magnitude of the development, expenditure of this engine, is much less than the development costs of such engines elsewhere in the world.

(b) In view of the above, question does not arise.

Selection of NCC cadets for annual camps

2353. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure adopted as criteria for selecting NCC cadets for annual camps including percentage of total candidates/cadets selected for such camps throughout the country;

(b) the details of facilities made available for NCC, cadets in such camp durations; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on annual camps during the last two years, year-wise and the cadets undergone/attended these camps in the country and the number of casualties of cadets, if any, occurred during the above periods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) to (c) Camps training forms an integral part of the training syllabus of National Cadet Corps (NCC). As such every NCC cadet is expected to attend at least one training camps as a part of his training programme. Approximately half of the total enrolled strength of the cadets is provided opportunity every year to attend training camps including annual training camps. Medical fitness and the consent of the parent are essential prerequisite for a cadet's selection for attending training camps.

The NCC cadets attending the camps are provided boarding, lodging and medical facilities. Arrangements for their safety and security are also made.

Expenditure on annual training camps organised by NCC is shared equally between the Central Government and the state Governments. The following table contains details of the expenditure incurred, the number of NCC cadets who attended the annual training camps and the number of casualties during 1995-96 and 1996-97:—

Year	No. of cadets who attended (in lakhs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)		Total	No. of casualties
		Central Government	State Governments		
1995-96	3.89	751.84	751.84	1503.68	10
1996-97	3.98	516.40	516.40	1032.80	4

Resentment amongst the Armed forces over the recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission

2354. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:

SHRI O. P. KOHLI:

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the chiefs of the three services have written to him about the Fifth Pay Commission not giving a fair deal to the Armed forces;

(b) whether Government are aware that in most of the countries there is a separate body to decide emoluments of the Armed Forces; and

(c) whether it is proposed to reconsider the proposed pay structure of the Armed Forces in view of their strong reaction to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) to (c) The Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee on behalf of the three Services has written to the Defence Minister expressing their reactions to the Fifth Pay Commission recommendations. The Government after taking all into account have decided to make certain improvements over Fifth Pay Commission's recommendations. The Government are also aware that the practice to decide emoluments of the Armed Forces in various countries differs.